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Organ Donation Bill Helps Remove Barriers

Milwaukee - Every day <u>22 people die waiting</u> for an organ transplant. A bipartisan bill authored by State Senator Alberta Darling will help remove barriers which may prevent donations from being available. Senator Darling's late husband, Bill Darling, was on the organ transplant list.

"My husband was on the organ donation waiting list when he passed away, so I know what it's like to wait and hope," Darling said, "I want to remove barriers to organ donation, so fewer families have to wait and hope. I want their loved ones to get a second chance."

<u>Senate Bill 517</u> and <u>Assembly Bill 752</u> allow a donor to take doctor recommended recovery time of up to six weeks if they donate an organ or bone marrow.

More than <u>2,000 people are waiting</u> for organs in Wisconsin. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in 2015, only 124 living organ donations were donated to our family members, neighbors, and friends in need.

Only <u>55.8% of eligible Wisconsin ID holders</u> are signed up to be organ donors. Senator Darling says she hopes her bill will encourage more people to sign up.

"Take a minute to sign up, it could add years to someone's life," Darling said, "Please visit <u>yesiwillwisconsin.com</u> and let your family know."

Both bills were referred to committees and await further action.

Senator Darling represents portions of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha Counties.

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